



Kendra Amaral
Town Manager

TOWN OF KITTERY
Office of the Town Manager
200 Rogers Road, Kittery, ME 03904
Telephone: 207-475-1329 Fax: 207-439-6806
kamaral@kitteryme.org

To: All Media Outlets
From: Kendra Amaral, Town Manager
Date: March 12, 2020
RE: Press Release – COVID-19 Update – Social Distancing Efforts

The Town of Kittery continues to make the decisions that public safety staff determine are best for the community, taking into account the latest information and guidance from state and federal authorities.

With the recent report of a positive presumptive case in Maine, the Town of Kittery is implementing the Social Distancing phase of our pandemic response plan. The Centers for Disease Control has determined that social distancing will help slow or stop the spread of the highly contagious Coronavirus (COVID-19). Social distancing means remaining out of congregate settings, avoiding mass gatherings, and maintaining distance (approximately 6 feet or 2 meters) from others when possible.

With that in mind, the Town of Kittery is implementing the following social distancing efforts:

- Town operations will continue as planned. The Town of Kittery offers a wide array of online services to assist with licensing, permitting, vital records, online payments and more. Many of these services can be found by using the “Online Services button on our homepage.
 - For more information on Town Hall operations, please contact 207-439-0452 or visit www.kitteryme.gov.
- The Town Council, Planning Board, Board of Appeals and Port Authority will continue to meet as planned.
 - Those interested in providing comment during public hearings and public comment portions of the meetings are encouraged to email, mail or drop written comments in the drop box at Town Hall in lieu of attending. Chairpersons will enter or read comments received so they are made part of the official record.
 - Coverage of these meetings will air live on Channel 22 (Comcast), the Town of Kittery website, Town Hall Streams, and KitteryChannel22 Facebook Live.
 - Additional information on how to access these streaming and rebroadcast options can be found at www.kitteryme.gov/meetingbroadcast.
- The Community Center will be cancelling events, large scale meetings, drop-in programs, youth sports, and classes, effective Saturday, March 14, 2020 and observing reduced hours of 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM, effective Monday, March 16, 2020.

- The Kittery Forest Preschool (formerly EOTW) and the SAFE Afterschool Programs will remain open at this time.
- The Community Center Fitness room and walking track will remain open at this time.
- For more information on the Community Center, please contact Community Center staff at 207-439-3800 or www.kitterycommunitycenter.org.
- The Rice Public Library will be cancelling programs, but will remain open for walk-in service. As always, patrons can access many materials and services online.
 - For more information on the Rice Public Library, please contact Library staff at 207-439-1553 or www.rice.lib.me.us/.
- The Resource Recovery Facility will remain open on its normal schedule at this time. The Freebie Barn will remain open as long as volunteers are available.

Please be advised that the situation may change pending additional information and updates. Chief David O'Brien is leading the Town's emergency management response and will continue maintaining regular communication with staff, community stakeholders, and state officials to stay abreast of the situation. Further updates will be provided to the community as we receive them.

We continue to encourage staff and visitors to stay home if they feel sick and to follow recommended hygiene practices. Making sure everyone is safe and healthy is our top priority.

Many of the things you do to help prevent colds and the flu can help protect you against other respiratory viruses:

- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Clean things that are frequently touched (like doorknobs and countertops) with household cleaning spray or wipes.
- Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze. Use a tissue or your inner elbow, not your hands.
- Stay home if you are sick and avoid close contact with others.

For more information on Coronavirus (COVID-19), please visit the U.S. CDC's website, which can be found at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

If you have questions, please contact Kendra Amaral at 207-475-1329 or kamaral@kitteryme.org.

Kendra Amaral
Town Manager